by the connecting member to the first member in a [free floating] free-floating relationship, thereby allowing the second member to tilt and move laterally with respect to the first member in response to reaction forces experienced during use of ~~the~~ a drill bit.

48 6. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 47, wherein the first member is a drive shank of [the] a drill bit[,] and the second member is a drill bit body.

49 8. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim [2] ~~1~~ 47, wherein [the] said first member is a drill bit body [supports] and said second member is comprised of at least one drill cutter movably mounted on the drill bit body.

50 ~~4~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 47, further comprising:

a transfer member for transferring torque and weight from the first member to the second member.

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51 ~~5~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim ~~4~~ 50, wherein the transfer member includes at least one elongate member passing through the second member and engaging at least one recess in the first member.

52 ~~6~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim ~~4~~ 50, wherein the transfer member includes a plurality of recesses in one of the first and second members for engaging corresponding gear components in the other of the first and second members.

53 ~~7~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim ~~6~~ 52, wherein the transfer

member includes a threaded locking ring surrounding the first member and engaging threads on the second member.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the connecting member includes an elastomeric spacer extending between at least part of the first member and the second member.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 8, wherein the elastomeric spacer comprises a hydrogenated nitrile rubber having a Shore A hardness of at least 80.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 8, wherein the elastomeric spacer comprises a layered body having at least one elastomeric material layer and at least one metal layer.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 1, wherein the connecting member comprises a hollow body containing a compressible fluid.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 11, wherein the hollow body transfers torque [transfer] between the first member and the second member.

**(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:

each of the first and second members [have] having cooperating passageways therein; and

a compressible seal for sealing engagement with the first member and the second member

to prevent escape of fluid from the passageways in the first member and the second member.

~~14~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 13, further comprising:

a flexible pipe providing fluid communication between the passageways in the first member and the second member.

~~15~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim [1, wherein the first member constitutes a drill bit body and the second constitutes] 2, further comprising at least one cutter movably mounted on the drill bit body.

~~16~~. **(Amended)** The [drill bit] apparatus as defined in Claim 15, wherein the cutter is adhered to the drill bit body by an elastomeric spacer.

**Remarks**

As presently amended, Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Responsive to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, Species 1 with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that as amended, Claims 1, 4, 8, 9-12, and 17 may be read on Figures 2-20E. Claims 2, 5-7, 13-14, 18, and 19 may be read on Figures 2-11. Accordingly, Claims 1-2, 4-14, and 7-20E read on Figures 2-11.

It is respectfully noted that Species 2 identified by the Examiner employs elastomeric material (2005 and 2004) for vibration control and includes a mechanism for permitting tilting between the upper and lower bodies 2001 and 2002. Note Applicants' specification at page 19, beginning at the first full paragraph, describing the relative tilting of the upper and lower bodies